

REMARKS

The amendment made herein is to insert the priority claim into the first line of the specification. Applicants note that the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") requires that the priority claim of an application be set forth in the sentence(s) of the specification following the title, preferably as a separate paragraph, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a) and/or in an application data sheet (ADS) pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.76. Further, as in the instant case, if the specific reference is contained in the ADS at the time of filing, the USPTO allows for the specification to be amended to contain such reference in the first sentence(s) following the title. Manual for Patent Examining Procedure ("M.P.E.P.") at § 201.11III(D). The specific reference was contained in the ADS as filed with the original application on May 9, 2000. Thus, Applicants submit that no petition or fee is required for entry of this amendment as prescribed in M.P.E.P. § 201.11. No new matter is added as a result of these amendments. Support for the changes may be found throughout the application as originally filed including the ADS.

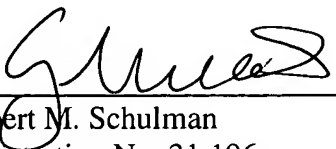
CONCLUSION

No fees are believed to be due for this amendment. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and § 1.17 associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to the deposit account of Hunton & Williams, **Deposit Account Number 50-0206**.

Respectfully submitted,
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By: _____


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